

WASHINGTON CITY.

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 26, 1858.

Business Notice.

As the business of the Union establishment, in view of the proposed change in its terms, will be conducted strictly on a cash basis, all agencies for the collection of subscriptions for the Union are discontinued. No payments should be made to Agents after this date, except to Mr. W. C. Lippincott, Jr., who is authorized to receive collections in Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. Washington, March 25, 1858.—W.

THE FEDERAL UNION—ITS POLITICAL, SOCIAL, AND INDUSTRIAL ASPECTS.

We leave to the careful observer of American politics to determine, whether our political union is not used by the factionists of the country to derange and pervert our social and industrial union. It will be conceded by every enlightened statesman—by every man who is at all able to comprehend the nature, character, and purposes of the government—that the great objects which were sought to be attained by the creation of our federal system, were the promotion of a closer social and friendly intercourse of the people, and a more judicious and effective development of their common industry. It is impossible to recognize in the Union a mere political alliance, looking solely to the consolidation of power, regardless of the special ends to which we have referred. If it is so, our national government becomes a mere engine of strength. It was created for no such distinctive purposes. Our geographical position secured to us the amplest means of defence against foreign aggression. Our industry was isolated and our productions, beyond the wants of our own people, extremely limited. We had few manufactures, little commerce—nothing indeed which could excite the cupidities, the rivalry, or the fear of the nations of Europe. Even our democratic system of government was regarded as a harmless experiment which a few years would be sufficient to overthrow.

Under such circumstances the constitution of the United States was framed and adopted. It created a government of the people. Its avowed object was to "establish justice," "insure domestic tranquillity," to provide for the common defence. In order to achieve these ends the States united themselves into one federal government. Domestic tranquillity—a peaceful brotherhood—was evidently the first great object which was sought to be accomplished. By the terms of the compact, free trade was secured to all the people of the new government. This principle of the Union was vital to the success of industry and a powerful stimulant to social and friendly intercourse. Having thus laid the foundations of the system upon a basis so broad, liberal, and fraternal, one commerce, one revenue, one army, one navy, with central authority sufficient to enforce them, were natural and inevitable institutions to give effect to that great law of American society.

We contend, then, the primary object of the Union was to promote the general welfare of the people by maintaining domestic peace and concord; and that therefore our political government was a means to that end.

Now, we submit to the representatives of the nation, if they do not find in the conduct of the republicans an attempt to subvert the government in these respects? Do they seek domestic tranquillity? Do they so act as to harmonize conflicting opinions, to remove prejudices, to keep in subjection the political power, and to promote the higher ends of social and industrial union? We see them only in efforts to divide and estrange the parts from each other. Political concentration of power is not only their paramount object, but it is sought to be wielded exclusively to subvert the social and industrial elements of the various States composing the confederacy. They array a war of industry between the labor of the North and the labor of the South. They do all that men can do to wield the authority of the nation to destroy and paralyze that industry, to poison the fountains of brotherly intercourse, and to drive the parts into irreconcilable hostility.

Now is this effort the result of momentary passion, the fruit of a fitful canvass; it is the settled policy of a powerful organization contending for supreme control of the administration of the government. Its rise has been the signal of bitter controversy. It has spread dismay and consternation throughout the country; and now, when its forces have been recruited and its capacity for mischief correspondingly increased, we have no sign of a disposition on the part of the crusaders to relinquish their fatal and destructive policy. If there is a man in the whole country who fails to see the tendency of these things, we can neither admire his wisdom, commend his patriotism, nor endorse his sanity.

The great error—and it is one which was most likely to find its disciples—is to be seen in the effort of American politicians and place-hunters, to build up an exclusive political power which shall be independent of the objects for which the government was created. We have no need of such an engine in our society. The office of government is widely different with us. We have no ambition to see the Union overshadow other political systems. We look to our labor, to the great operations of the industry of the people, and to their effects, as the visible and real power of the State. It is that industry that maintains the government; and it is a clear perversion of the principles of the latter and of the rights of the former to use the one to destroy the other.

The correspondent of the New York Tribune states that "arrangements have been made for a thorough anti-Leocompton organization without reference to political antecedents." The country will await the completion of these arrangements with a considerable degree of curiosity. Every one is anxious to know what position Messrs. Douglas, Walker, Wise, Stanton, Stuart, Bell, Crittenden, & Co. are to occupy in the new party. They have certainly made great sacrifices, and ought to be well rewarded, but we imagine they will get much less than they bargained for. The black-republican committee-men of the several States were to have met in this city yesterday for the purpose, as we suppose, of inaugurating the arrangements alluded to by the Tribune's correspondent, and also to divide out the spoils in expectancy; but if they got together the fact has not yet transpired. We trust, however, that they will meet soon, and let us know exactly how matters stand. It is highly important they should do so, and we beg of the Tribune, Times, and Press to hurry them up.

A bill has been introduced into the New York State senate to submit to the people a call for a convention to revise and amend the constitution of that State.

WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN?

The most important political problem which remains to be solved is that which the senator from Illinois has presented to the American people—whether he has been read out of the democratic party, or whether, on the other hand, he walked out of his own free will and accord. Being read out of the party, we take it he is a red republican—if he went out voluntarily, then he is a black republican. It is very important, therefore, to have the question settled at once—and as he charges the Union with an official intermeddling in the matter, we shall undertake to throw a little light upon the subject. The Union is a newspaper—Mr. Douglas says in his circulars that it is not a democratic newspaper—the republicans do not claim it as their organ—the Americans do not view it—and we aver that we are entirely opposed to the reds; so that in every respect we are certified as an impartial umpire to decide upon the shades of Mr. Douglas's politics. It would be presumptuous in us to read Mr. Douglas out of the party. We have done no such thing. We could do no such thing. Our business is not to render verdicts but to record judgments. Mr. Douglas is an independent senator—he must take his own course, shape his own destiny, fix his own political relations, and abide the consequences. We did not underwrite him, and we do not vouch for his skill in navigation or for the accuracy of his log-book. We have stated the circumstances of his getting ashore and of the probable loss of his ship and cargo. That is all. It was somebody else that misled him if he was misled—or, if he was a little intoxicated by ambition, it was not by our beverage. Hence, upon this plain record, we must insist that Mr. Douglas is not a red republican but is, if anything, a black-republican.

We have two parties in this country, the democratic party and the other party. If Mr. Douglas is still with the former, then his statement that the Union has read him out of it is inaccurate; if he is with the latter we can only say he has an odd way of showing it. If he is with the republicans, he pays his associates a poor compliment by getting angry with us for intimating as much.

"Fellow soldiers," said a gallant captain on the eve of an engagement with the enemy, "we are now coming to a point that shall test our patriotism, our courage, and our fidelity to a good cause. I beseech you when the battle comes to stand firm to your posts, and to wield your weapons like soldiers fighting for the liberties of your country. Should you be overwhelmed, it is equally important that you should make an orderly quick retreat—and as I am a little lame, I'll start new." When Mr. Douglas came to Washington, just on the eve of the great battle which the democracy had determined to risk on the strength of his previous speeches and leadership, they naturally looked to him to carry out his principles, and they were determined, even to the poorest soldier, to stand by him and their colors in the fight. When the bugle sounded for the attack he was not at his post, he was on the other side. The battle, Mr. Douglas knows, has been fought and won by the democracy; at least, the republicans have been driven out of the citadel—and the senator from Illinois went out with them. He was not of the victorious party, as he might have been but for his lameness. His retreat was too soon; but we thank him for his gallant speech—it convinced the rank and file, and they remained true to their banners, true to their country, true to the Old Guard of the democracy, who never desert and never surrender. If ever a political party was endowed with high Christian virtues, with the fidelity and honest faith of John, and with the wisdom, philosophy, boldness, and energy of Paul, it is the democracy.

PARTY CHANGES IN ENGLAND.

The government of England is at once the most stable and the most unstable, always excepting that of Mexico, in the world. "The king never dies," and in the crown we find the feature of the government which changes not, whatever questions or issues may arise. The House of Lords is another part of the government possessing the same feature of immutability. But the actual executive of England, the responsible persons who direct its policy and mark out its measures, may be changed with wonderful despatch. We have recently seen a ministry disappear before a mere breath; a mere suspicion that they had not been prompt in replying to the disagreeable diplomatic communication from a neighboring and allied nation was sufficient to stir up the condemnation of the popular will. A single reverse in the House of Commons, a defeat by a boggy majority, was sufficient to do the work. A House of Commons, elected less than a year ago on the issue of sustaining the late ministry, thus deserted it and allowed it to be superseded.

It cannot be supposed that the new ministry, brought into existence by a majority of 19 only, can long resist an attack of its enemies. Its members are composed of persons of high mental ability, whose names are already well known to the world; yet, with all its real merits, it is looked upon as a transition government only, to give way to another of more decided character and policy. It might be defeated at any time in the House of Commons, but as such a result would probably lead to a dissolution of Parliament, and a new election, it is believed that no issue will be made against it during the present session.

As the late ministry was defeated because it had not replied to a French diplomatic note, it became the first duty of the new government to comply with the popular will and make the required answer. The reply has been duly forwarded, and is represented to have been both firm and conciliatory in its tone. There is, however, something bordering on absurdity to write a reply to the French government as a matter of form. Having discharged the duty which it was especially chosen to perform, the new ministry can now proceed to attend to the general interests of the English empire, and may follow out the Palmerstonian line of policy, if it chooses.

Regarded as a transition ministry, speculation is already rife as to the probability of the Earl of Derby's successor. Most prominent stands Lord Palmerston, who is regarded as a true representative of the idiosyncrasies of the English people. Should such be the turn of the political wheel, he would doubtless surround himself by new men, seeking perhaps to combine the strength of the old ministry with the intellect and popularity of individual members of the new. The tone of the foreign accounts would lead us to anticipate another sudden change in the ministry, did not the fear of a dissolution deter the members of the House of Commons from relin-

quishing six of their seven years' terms, by participating in factious movements. This circumstance will, doubtless, give the Earl of Derby a temporary support beyond the actual strength of the measures he may propose.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM SONORA.—ANOTHER REVOLUTION.—ARIZONA.

We are permitted to make the following extract from letters just received by the overland mail from Arizona:

FEBRUARY 7, 1858.

DEAR SIR: Sonora is again in a state of revolution, the rebel party being commanded by Jesus Gaudan. He has thus far carried everything before him, and has every prospect of success. He wages war upon an exterminating principle. So far all the prisoners he has taken he has despatched, (a la muerte) and they have not been a few, and the latest accounts we have say that he had surrounded Pochiera, the governor, in such a manner that it would be impossible for him to escape, and that he had declared his intention of hanging him as high as Haman, so soon as he could get hands on him. To this I say "Amen!" There are, I believe, no Americans at all engaged in this affair, and I suppose will be none.

The portion of the El Paso and Fort Yuma Road companies working from the Pinos villages down the Gila are getting on well, and making an excellent road. How those are doing that have gone up the Gila I am not able to say, not having seen them.

Yours, truly,

GRANVILLE H. OURY.

STEWART MOWAT, Esq., Delegate from Arizona. Other letters from Mesilla, Las Cruces, and La Mesa speak of the great interest felt by the Rio Grande population in reference to the organization of Arizona, and the course of their delegate (Mr. Mowat) in contending for an east and west line, to include the Lower Rio Grande, is fully endorsed. The people of Mesilla, after much antipathy from the so-called friendly Indians, had sallied out and, in a fight near Don Ana, had killed nine. The Indians were preparing to attack Mesilla in revenge.

THE COALITION IN THE SENATE.—After the proceedings of Tuesday there can be longer by any doubt as to the existence of a perfect coalition between Messrs. Bell and Crittenden, on the one side, and the black-republican senators, on the other. Though Mr. Crittenden sought to excuse himself for the company in which he was found, and indignantly denied that it was his purpose to aid in building up the black-republican party, it was evident to every one present that his attendance to Mr. Green's bill for the admission of Kansas was made upon a thorough understanding with the republican leaders, and in the hope of embarrassing the action of the democratic party. Messrs. Seward, Clark, and others of that stripe had given notice of their intention to propose amendments, but not one of them did so. Mr. Crittenden was placed in the lead, and his proposition commanded the entire support of his republican allies, with the single exception of Mr. Durkee. It may satisfy Mr. Crittenden to say that his movement was made without concert with those who sustained it, but actions speak louder than words, and people usually judge of motives by their results. Mr. Crittenden need not hope to escape the consequences of his deed by loud professions of independence and patriotism. They will cling to him like the man of the mountain to the back of the saddle.

A CASE OF CONSCIENCE.—We are glad to record the fact that Senator Hale yesterday made a complete and ample apology for his recent attack upon the President, in connection with the residence of the latter for a few weeks of the summer at the Soldier's Home. We had not the good fortune to hear the remarks of the senator, but we understand that they were exactly what is due from a senator to the President of the United States. Having thus made full confession, we hasten to pronounce absolution for this one sin.

NEW JERSEY.—Some time ago the discontented Forney grew joyful over the passage of certain anti-Leocompton resolutions by one branch of the legislature of New Jersey. The resolutions went to the senate, where they slept until the legislature adjourned. New Jersey has declined to join in the opposition—a fact which we take the liberty of bringing to the special notice of the Press.

HON. G. B. ADRIN, OF NEW JERSEY.

THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY.

March 23, 1858.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE UNION: I noticed an abstract report of the speech of Hon. G. B. Adrain, member of Congress from this district, published in a New York paper of last Monday. It therein stated that Mr. Adrain said "he would be ashamed to face his democratic constituents if he voted for Leocompton." Permit me, sir, to assure you that Mr. Adrain is acting adversely to the known sentiments of the democracy of this district; that he is so acting in the face of instructions sent to him to support the administration in this and all other matters; that, notwithstanding repeated communications sent to him upon this subject, he has as yet failed to give any reason to his constituents for the course he is now pursuing. Further, sir, I repeat, and the proofs to sustain it are in Mr. Adrain's hands, the democracy of this district do not and will not endorse his present course.

Yours, &c., A DEMOCRAT.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

Business of the General Land Office for the month of February, 1858:

Letters received and registered	4,289
Written and recorded	3,581
Patents engrossed	8,172
Recorded	4,545
Examined	6,366
Transmitted	11,608
Entries posted in tract books	16,154
Acres of scrip issued	7,528

REMOVAL OF THE LAND OFFICE FROM SAINT RAPHAEL TO ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA TERRITORY.—The Commissioner of the General Land Office has received advice from the register and receiver at Saint Rapids, Minnesota Territory, that the land office will be removed to, and opened at, St. Cloud on the 19th of April next, in compliance with the recent order of the President to that effect.

BRAZIL AND BRENOS AYRES.—Accounts have been received from Rio Janeiro to the 14th ultimo. Yellow fever continued to rage most violently, carrying off victims by the dozen daily. The dates from Pernambuco are to the 24th ultimo. The rainy season had subsided, and that city was healthy. The first section of the railroad has been opened, and the Brazilians are delighted at beholding the transportation of sugar and passengers at the rate of twenty miles per hour. The commencement looks cheerful, and when the next section is completed the ride will disclose a scenery equal to any in Brazil. The city of Buenos Ayres on the 28th of January was in great commercial distress, many houses having failed, and hides bringing an unusually low price.

NO FRANCHISE THIS YEAR.—Mr. Davis, the well-known pond grower of Clement county, reports that not more than one pound had in twenty thousand been escaped the frost. Many other prominent horticulturists make similar reports. It is, therefore, evident that the peach crop of 1858 in this section will amount to zero.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Arrest of an Alleged Defaulter. New York, March 24.—The German banker, Anderer, was arrested here, yesterday, on the charge of being a defaulter, in Stuttgart, to the amount of \$400,000.

Heavy Robbery. New Orleans, March 24.—The office of Henry Shepley, Esq., was robbed, on Sunday, of \$1,800 in money, and notes to the amount of about \$100,000. A large reward has been offered, and police officers are requested to be on the alert.

Marine Disaster. SAVANNAH, March 24.—The barque Actress, from Glasgow, for —, has gone ashore at Assabaw Island. No further particulars.

County Court-House and Records Burnt.

SAVANNAH, March 24.—The court-house of Lee county, in this State, was burnt on Saturday last, together with all the records. The fire was no doubt caused by an incendiary.

Indian Massacre at the Bay Islands. NEW ORLEANS, March 23.—A schooner from the Bay Islands reports the massacre of one hundred and fifty of the inhabitants by the Indians.

Alleged Kidnappers Arrested. NEW YORK, March 24.—A Canadian, named Finley, and his reputed wife, were arrested to-day for an attempt to kidnap and sell a free negro girl from Washington. The girl was returned.

Departure of a Steamer.

BOSTON, March 24.—The European mail steamer Canada sailed at half-past two this afternoon, with 77 passengers and \$20,000 specie.

Markets.

NEW YORK, March 24.—Cotton is firm—sales of 5,000 bales. There was a large export inquiry. Flour is unsettled—sales of 12,000 bbls.; State, \$4 20 a \$4 30; Ohio, \$4 85 a \$5; southern, \$4 25 a \$4 30. Wheat is dull. Corn is dull—sales of 23,000 bushels; white, 67 a 68 cents; yellow, 67 cents. Pork is firm—moss, \$16 65 a \$16 75; prime, \$13 40. Lard is buoyant but unsettled. Whiskey is quiet at 27 cents. Coffee is steady at 10 1/4 a 11 1/4 cents for Rio. Sugar is firm. Molasses is in good demand at 32 a 33 cents for New Orleans. Spirits of turpentine is heavy at 49 cents. Rosin is steady. Rice is quiet.

From the New York Journal of Commerce.

THE REASON.

If the Leocompton bill is defeated in the House of Representatives, which to us does not appear probable, its failure will be due to an influence which we have been accustomed to regard as of the side of rational principles, the influence of the Union, and against the sectional doctrines, the candidates, and the action of the republican party. We attribute to that class of men who, once belonging to the old whig party, have declined to join the abolition movement, or be led off by the anti-slavery cry of the republicans, but have maintained an independent position during the past year, some division of "straight whig" tickets, casting their votes as judgment dictated, for the democratic or American candidate.

A number of leading statesmen in the country occupied this position, and several of the most reliable newspapers in the Union have been acknowledged as the organs of that class of men. In the last presidential contest, these men were called upon to support General Fremont, and either cast their votes for Mr. Buchanan or for Mr. Fillmore. Since the present administration came into power, they have generally given to its measures their support, and reposed a generous confidence in the ability, qualifications, and good purposes of the President in the conduct of the country in a doubtful and satisfactory manner. The Leocompton question has, however, put their nationality to a severe test, and we regret to observe that many of them have at this late day, after standing out against sectionalism well and manfully, yielded to its embraces, and seem likely to be swallowed up by it, or by some new political organization of which that will be the vital part.

We have watched the course of those to whom we allude with a deep interest, and with a large degree of hope that their national principles would prove sound and permanent; but we regret to see so large a proportion of them yield to the professions of the late republican leaders for a new political organization, having for its object the successful conduct of the presidential campaign in 1860. But for this movement, and the countenance and support it receives from national men, or those heretofore regarded as such, there would be no shadow of doubt as to the admission of Kansas under the Leocompton constitution, and the consequent defeat and dissolution of the republican party. The consent of Senators Crittenden and Bell, and of Messrs. Marshall, Davis, and their American associates in the House, to be numbered with the sectional party, and to contribute to the success of its schemes, may, we do not say it will, endanger the success of the measure upon which the administration has made a great issue, which defeat will be regarded as a triumph for the party which all national men have opposed.

It is not to be denied that while the administration has looked with favor upon the applications for official position of members of the former whig party, and while the recommendation of prominent men of that party for a stamp have been often concerned in, that confidence has to a great extent been repaid by a failure to support, if not a decided manifestation of opposition to, the prominent measure now claiming the attention of Congress and the country. We have not the slightest knowledge of the opinions entertained by the President on this topic, but we should think common courtesy to say nothing of the dictates of principle and the proprieties of political relations, would prompt the class of men of whom we speak to abstain from urging upon him the names of their friends for official position while, as a body, they fail to sustain the leading measures of his administration.

Of the new party, we say nothing, excepting a position agreeing with the administration on the slavery question, we can call to mind but few which now sustain the Leocompton constitution. The Boston Courier is almost the only one at the North now in our minds which does not denounce it, and we are not clear as to its actual position. In this State, the Herald Commercial Advertiser, the Albany Statesman, and New York Express and late organs of the "silver grey" and denunciations of Americans, are among the loudest in denunciation of the administration.

We have referred to this subject with the view of placing the responsibility for the very close contact of the Union with those who, having the power, and as we have always believed, the disposition to promote the success of national principles, have nevertheless yielded to the insidious propositions of the enemy, and, as there appears to be reason to believe, entered into a league respecting future political action which demands the sacrifice of recent convictions, and of present and past political relations. We shall be gratified if the movement to which we refer proves to be no more than an innocent flirtation, instead of a permanent engagement, and does not go the extent of defeating the bill now before Congress.

NEBRASKA NEWS.

The residents of Omaha city are taking much interest in the Mississippi and Missouri railroad, to extend from Rock Island to the present capital of Nebraska. The citizens of Omaha and Council Bluffs are asked to make a certain subscription to the stock of the road, which, if made, will secure the grading of fifty miles of the western end of the road during the present season. As the road lies in Iowa, it has a land grant as the basis of its construction.

The citizens of Cass county are discussing the propriety of removing the county seat from Plattsmouth, in one corner of the county, to a more central location. Five thousand dollars have been subscribed for the erection of a court-house at Rock Bluffs. A number of families have recently settled in Dakota county. A horse ferry is about to be established across the Missouri river at Cumming city.

There are fourteen newspapers published in Nebraska Territory: two at Omaha, one at Nebraska City, one at Benningville, one at Nebraska City, one at Wyoming, one at Three Forks, one at Rock Bluffs, one at Bellevue, one at Florence, one at De Soto, one at Cumming City, one at Dakota, and one at Omaha. Six of these papers are democratic, four are republican, and the politics of the remaining four, says the Nebraskaian, we cannot ascertain, because they don't know themselves yet. The republican party, it adds, is largely without looking after. They are not orthodox; they go squatter sovereignty harder than we do—endorse Douglas, and do many other things of which you wouldn't approve. Their leaders are S. F. Nickolls, Gen. Wm. Larimer, and Wm. Young, Brown, Omaha, and several others too numerous to mention. They recognize no paper in Nebraska as their organ.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

A brother of Gen. Ben, the Hungarian patriot, is in Canton, Mo., where he is stopping for a few days. He is on his way to visit relatives in Iowa. The Canton Reporter says he is covered with scars acquired in thirty-two years' service in European wars.

The mayor of Louisville has ordered the arrest of Capt. Davis, who had advertised to shoot an orange from the head of a boy in that city, on a wager of \$1,000, in evidence of his skill as a pistol-shooter. Complaint was made by many citizens, who were incensed at this wanton trifling with human life.

Mr. James Armstrong has retired from the editorial management of the Janesville (Wis.) Democrat, and been succeeded by Mr. C. E. Wright. The former supported the position of Judge Douglas on the Kansas question; the latter that of the President and the democratic party, urging the admission of Kansas with the Leocompton constitution.

Hon. Mr. Caruthers arrived at Cape Girardeau Saturday, from New Orleans, in improved health. He will tarry there a day or two, and then leave for Washington by the river route, going as far as Cincinnati or Wheeling by this mode of conveyance.—St. Louis Republican, March 21.

We are gratified to learn that Major T. S. Bryant has been reappointed marshal for the eastern district of Missouri, and that it has been confirmed by the Senate. This is in entire consonance with the wish of the people of this State, with whom Major Bryant has already been a popular officer.—St. Louis Republican.

THE ARMY AND NAVY.

The frigate Walash, which was taken into dock on Saturday for the examination of her copper, was taken out again yesterday. She is to be fitted out with all despatch for the Mediterranean. Four of the engines only have been ordered to her.

The shipbuilding Hellet sailed at 10 o'clock yesterday, with stores for the home squadron. She goes to Aspinwall. The following is a list of her officers: Lieutenant Commanding James H. Strong, Lieutenant Augustus McLaughlin, Lieutenant J. Howard March, Lieut. W. W. Low, Lieutenant John S. Thorne, Passed Midshipman S. H. Mitchell, Captain's clerk, John C. Robinson.

Some ninety caulkers were discharged on Saturday, who had been at work on the Walash. There are now about 1,200 men, all to be at work in the yard. The work upon the new frigate in the ship-hoist is progressing rapidly.—N. Y. Times, March 24.

It was said last evening about the city that Colonel A. S. Johnston was yesterday confirmed by the Senate a brigadier general in the army. The United States steam-frigate Minnesota was at Hong Kong on the 14th inst., having arrived there on the 10th previous. A correspondent from on board states that the engines are in fine order, and that they work without a jar or noise of any kind. A seaman had fallen through a hatchway, and died immediately after from the injuries received. Mr. Commissioner Reed was at Hong Kong.

Lieut. James Lewis, U. S. M. C., suggests, in a published letter, that the citizens of Lancaster, Penn., place a painting of that city in the cabin of the steam-sloop Lancaster, now on the stocks at Philadelphia.

The United States ship-of-war Constellation, Commander Bell, was at Messina on the 15th ult. The United States ship-of-war Vincennes, Com. Totten, from Sierra Leone, arrived at Monrovia January 20, and sailed again on the 27th for Cape Palmas. Officers and crew all well. A mail from the Vincennes has arrived at Baltimore.

A Key West correspondent, writing on the 12th inst., states that such commendable progress had been made in the construction of Fort Jefferson that about 30 workmen had been discharged, and the staff of mechanics and laborers reduced to the summer strength. One tier of guns had been placed on Fort Jefferson, and Fort Taylor could be made bomb-proof in a short time.

ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC.

INTERESTING INTELLIGENCE.

The schooner Suffolk arrived at New Orleans on the 18th inst., from Matanzas, isthmus of Tehuantepec, which places her left on the 30th inst. From a passenger the New Orleans Freighter gathers the subjoined intelligence from that portion of Mexico.

In the latter part of February Mexicans reached Matanzas, in a party of three hundred Mexican troops of the Zuloaga faction were advancing with a view to seize Matanzas, which was held by Gov. Saez, and a body of troops for the constitutionalists, and to take possession of the isthmus. Governor Saez thereupon had a portion of the troops under his command put aboard the war-steamer Helado, which was ordered to the scene, with a view to proceeding up the river and intercepting the advancing party, and they departed for that purpose. This was the last week of February. About the 24th the Suffolk dropped down from Matanzas to the bar, some twelve miles below, where she lay till the 25th.

On the 25th the schooner Major Barbour, Captain Thompson, arrived at the bar, having on board thirteen Mexican officers, (including General Wheat and General Guetia), all armed to the teeth, and under the lead of General Salas, ex-President of Mexico. The Major Barbour remained at the bar about three hours, during which time the officers of the fort at the mouth of the river paid a friendly visit to the party on board, and then started for Matanzas. Meantime, Governor Saez, having heard of their arrival, sent down orders for the arrest of the whole party, but the orders arrived too late.

When the Major Barbour arrived at Matanzas, Governor Saez would not allow any one on board to land; whereupon, Captain Thompson and his party, with the exception of the middle of the stream, opposite the town, all the time keeping the United States flag flying. Governor Saez, it appears, was very anxious to arrest the Mexican officers on board the schooner, but Captain Thompson declared it should not be done under that flag. Baffled in this design, Governor Saez had made such calculations of his troops on shore that he was not prepared to take the risk of Matanzas, and at the same time keeping their watch on the Major Barbour and the party on board.

Our informant says that the Mexicans on board the schooner openly announced that they came to pronounce for Santa Anna, but as there were no signs of the advance of the 300 men across the isthmus, he is of opinion that the Major Barbour and her party of Santa Anna would have to leave the river without accomplishing their purpose.

He further says that if a sufficiently strong armed party was to land and pronounce for Santa Anna, he has not the slightest doubt that they could obtain possession of Matanzas and the isthmus without resistance, and that the constitutionalists troops, under Governor Saez, would at once lay down their arms or join in the cry for Santa Anna.

The Americans on the isthmus, he tells us, generally incline to the constitutionalists, but take no part in the contest. The Mexicans, he says, are almost unanimously for Santa Anna.

When the Suffolk left there was considerable excitement, and affairs were in a state of great uncertainty. Santa Anna, our informant says, was daily expected to arrive in the Coatzacoatzcos, and he would not be surprised if the one-legged chieftain has arrived before this time.

THE DEMOCRACY OF DAVIES COUNTY.—Here and there over the State democrats are said to have faltered and followed after Senator Douglas and his new-found friends in their worship of idols and strange gods; but here in Davies county we do not know a solitary man who voted for Mr. Buchanan who regrets it, and that would not repeat his vote. We are all proud of being Buchanan men here, because he is the embodiment of democracy, and the man of our choice; and under no circumstances will we ever desert him, and his unit he deserves the great principles upon which he was elected, which a grateful ambition, a pure moral and political character, and a solid frame of statesmanship and wisdom will sustain him against. Every democrat in Davies county sustains the administration of Mr. Buchanan, and we believe the feeling in this county is the feeling throughout the first district.

Notwithstanding the fact that the democratic party, or the black-republican and know-nothing press, the four thousand eight hundred democratic majority given to Mr. Buchanan is still with him and will stick to him. [Washington Indiana] Bee.

VOLENTIERS FOR UTAH.

A number of young men have associated themselves together at the army of the Mormon Guards, in Fourth street, below Poplar, for the purpose of organizing a company to proceed to Utah, in aid of the United States army, should their services be required by the general government. They have named their company "The Bonnet Guards." They employ a band of martial music, and up to last evening had about fifty names upon their roll. Should there be any necessity for volunteers of this kind, we have no doubt that Philadelphia now, as heretofore, will furnish her full quota.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

GLEANINGS FROM THE MAIL.

Mr. Nathan Smith, of New York, has received a letter from New Haven, his former place of residence, enclosing \$25 in bank bills, and a small scrap of paper printed with the single word "restitution." Nothing else appeared to indicate the origin of this letter.

A family quarrel has broken out among the republicans of Poughkeepsie, New York, over the distribution of "the spoils" by the mayor and aldermen. One indignation meeting has already been held, and another will follow in a few days.

At the last session of the legislature of New York, a bill for raising the negro to an electoral equality with the white was adopted by a republican vote, which provided for the submission of the equality amendment to the people. There were warm congratulations in the republican ranks at this "great act of justice," and for the boldness which it gave to a foolish prejudice. The child which was to be born as a joint heir of republican promise of excellent care. But the time-serving policy of their leaders was cruel as death toward it. The resolution, in the words of the New York Daily Times, was "injected in the executive chamber, and thus, falling un